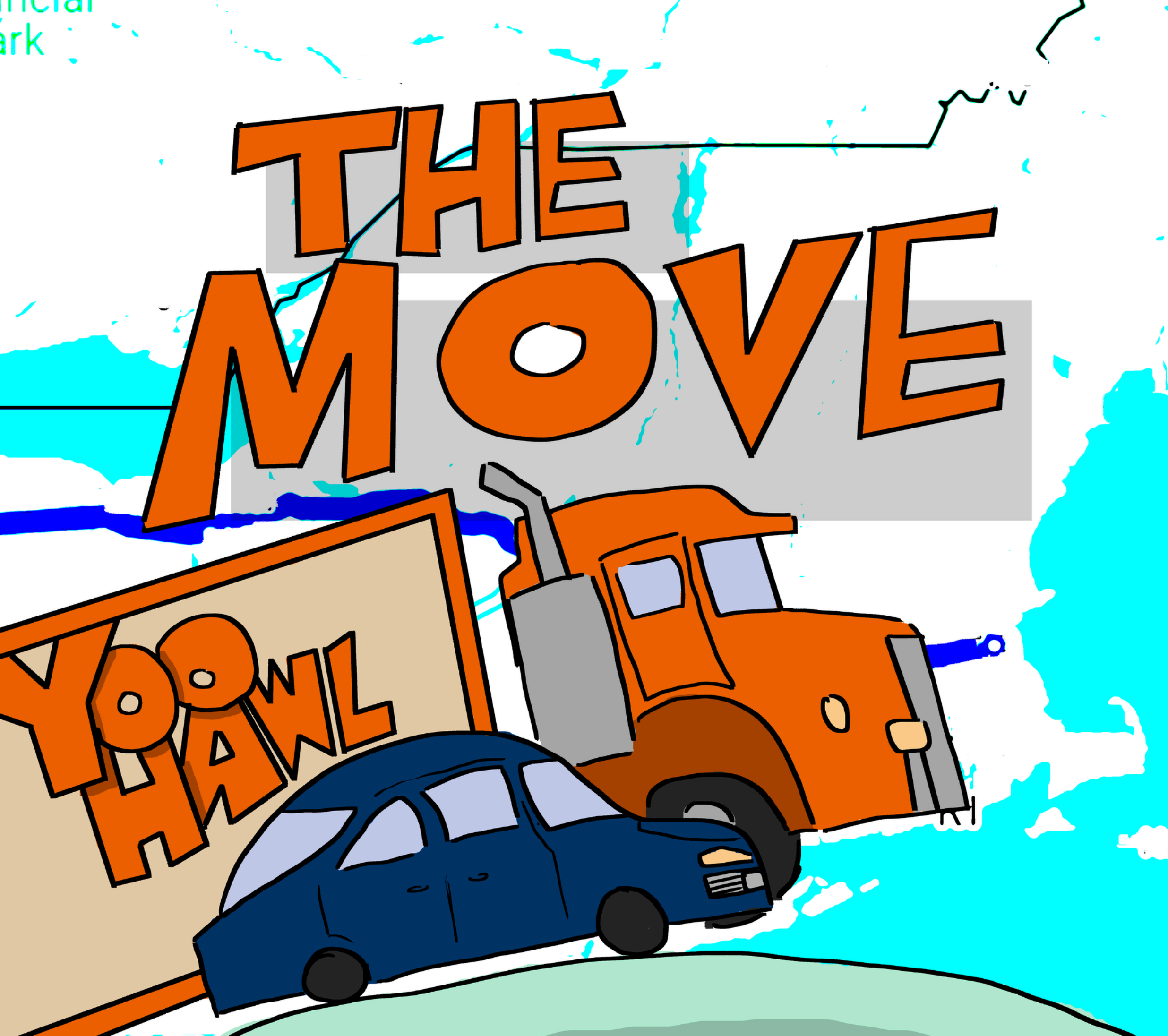
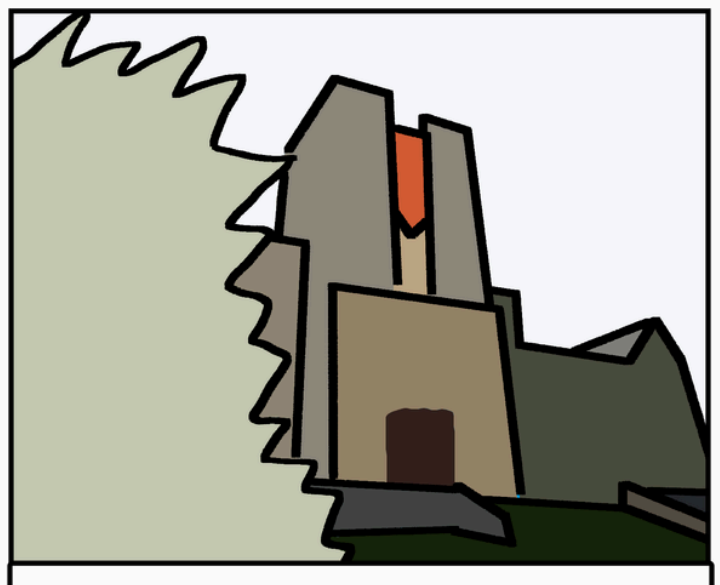
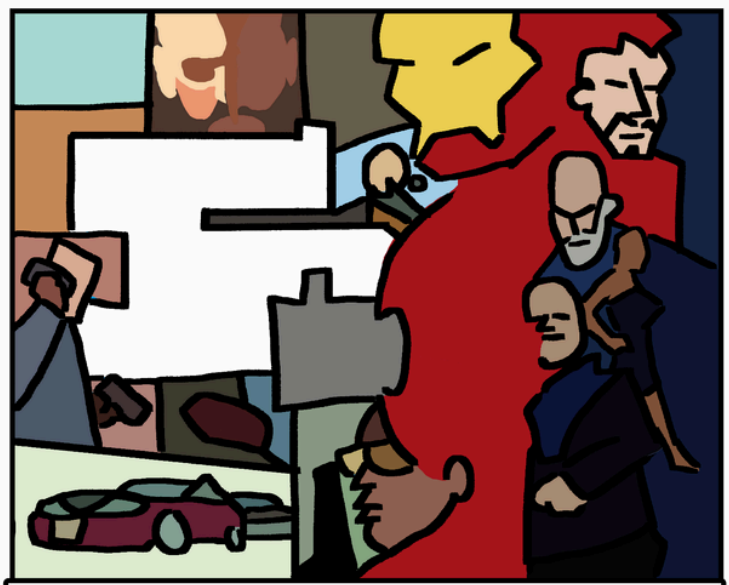
THE MOVE



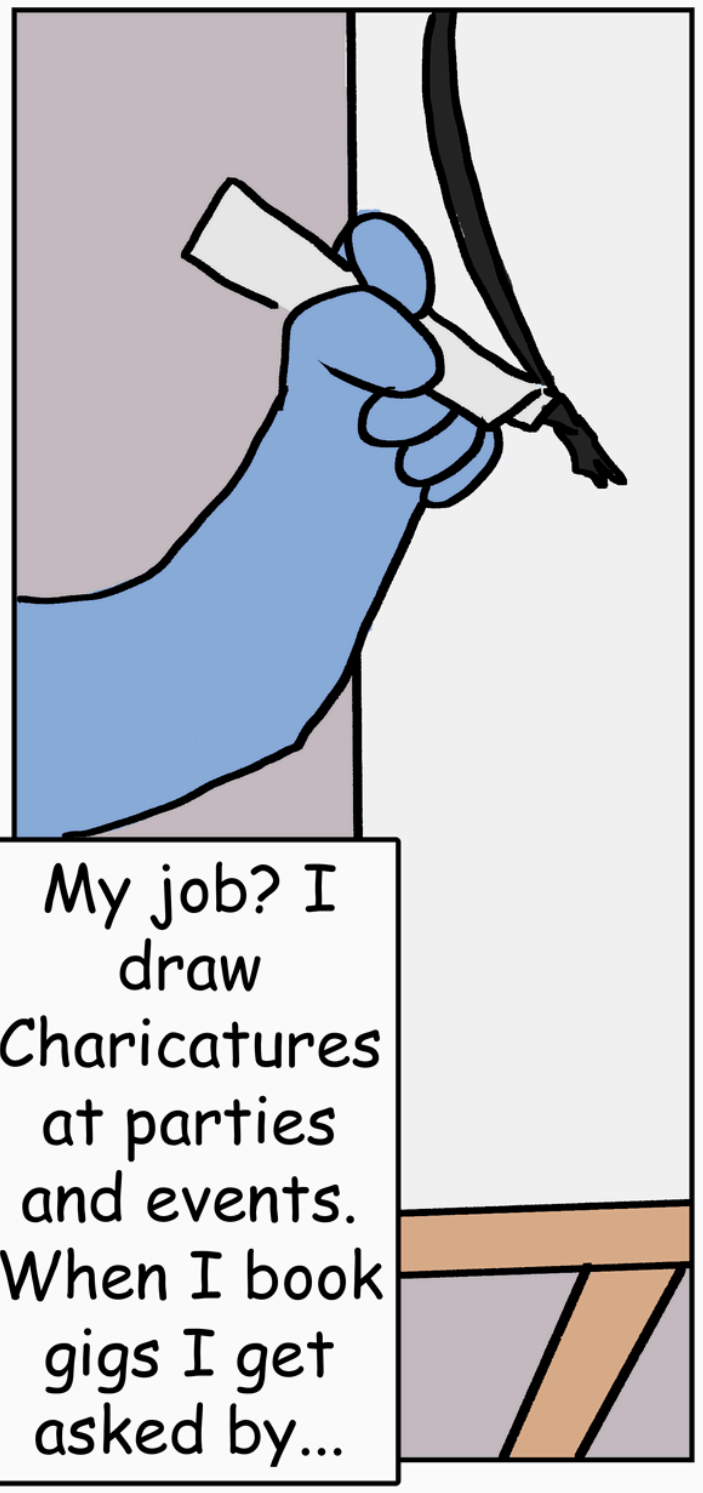
Spring



Spring 2007

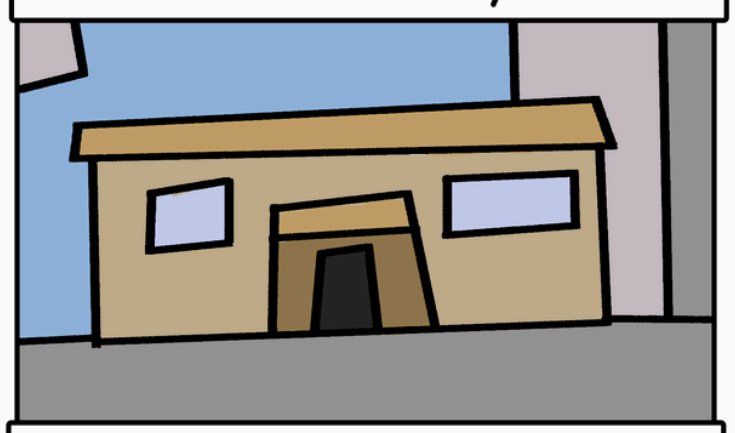


No... It was Spring 2008

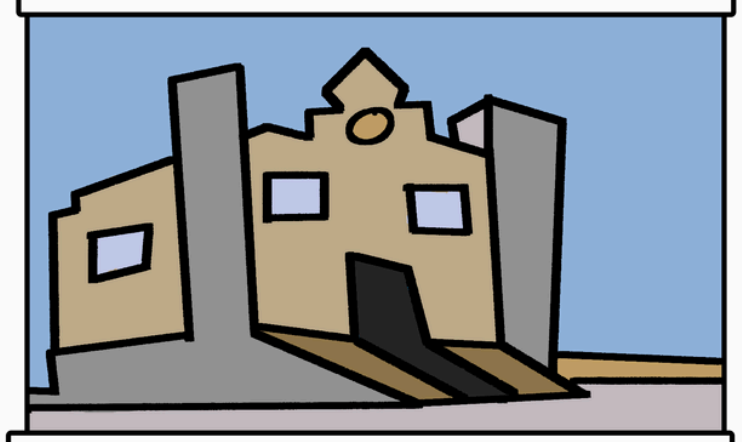


My job? I draw Charicatures at parties and events. When I book gigs I get asked by...

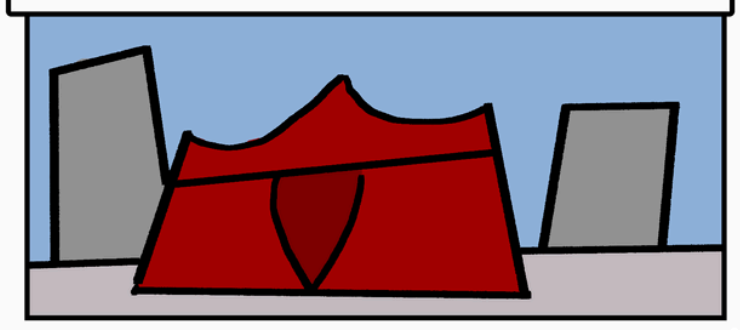
...Schools,

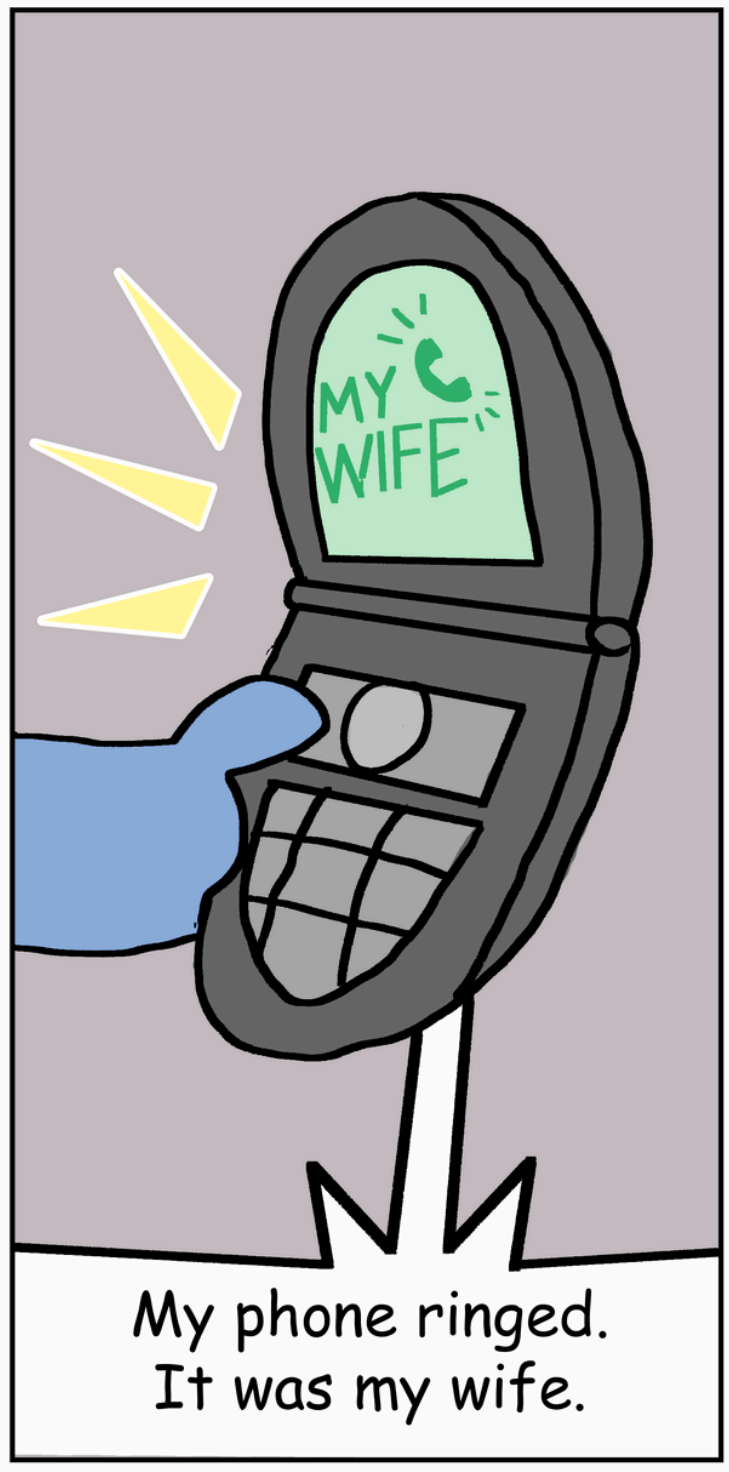


Libraries



or a fair to draw for an event. But that's not important.





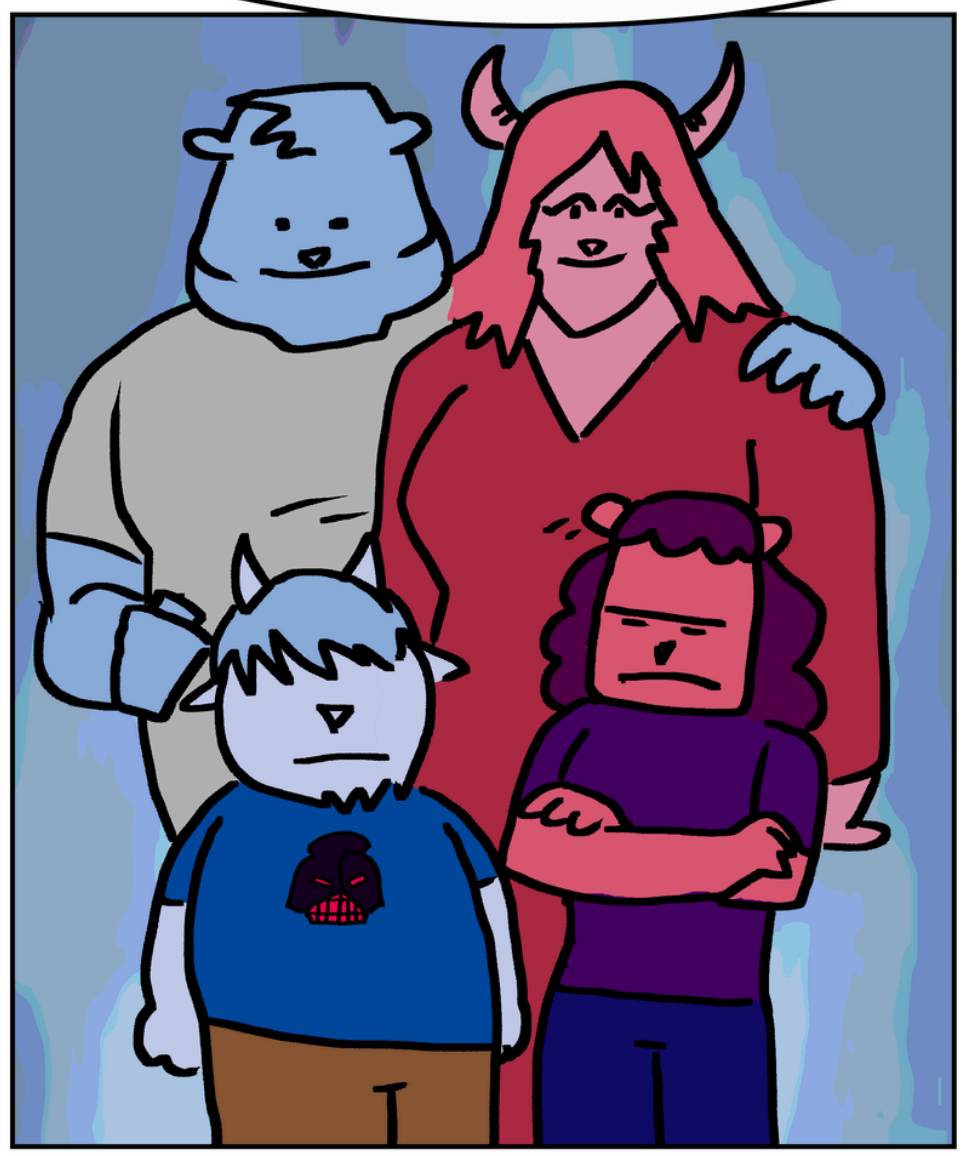
My phone ringed. It was my wife.

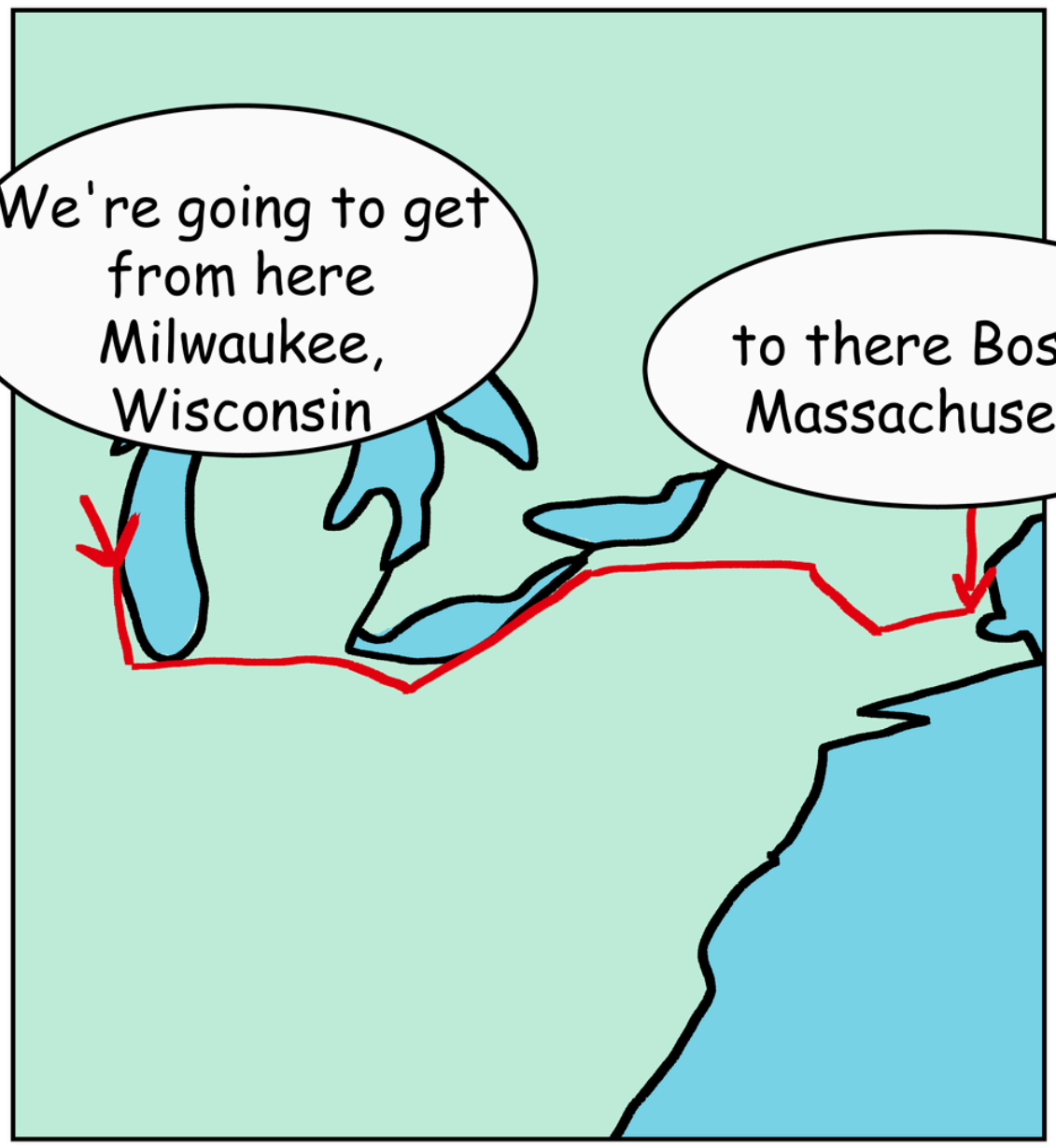
I heard this...

Honeyljustgotascholarshiptoharvarduniversitywoooohooo!!!!

My wife just got a scholarship to Harvard. But that's not important either.

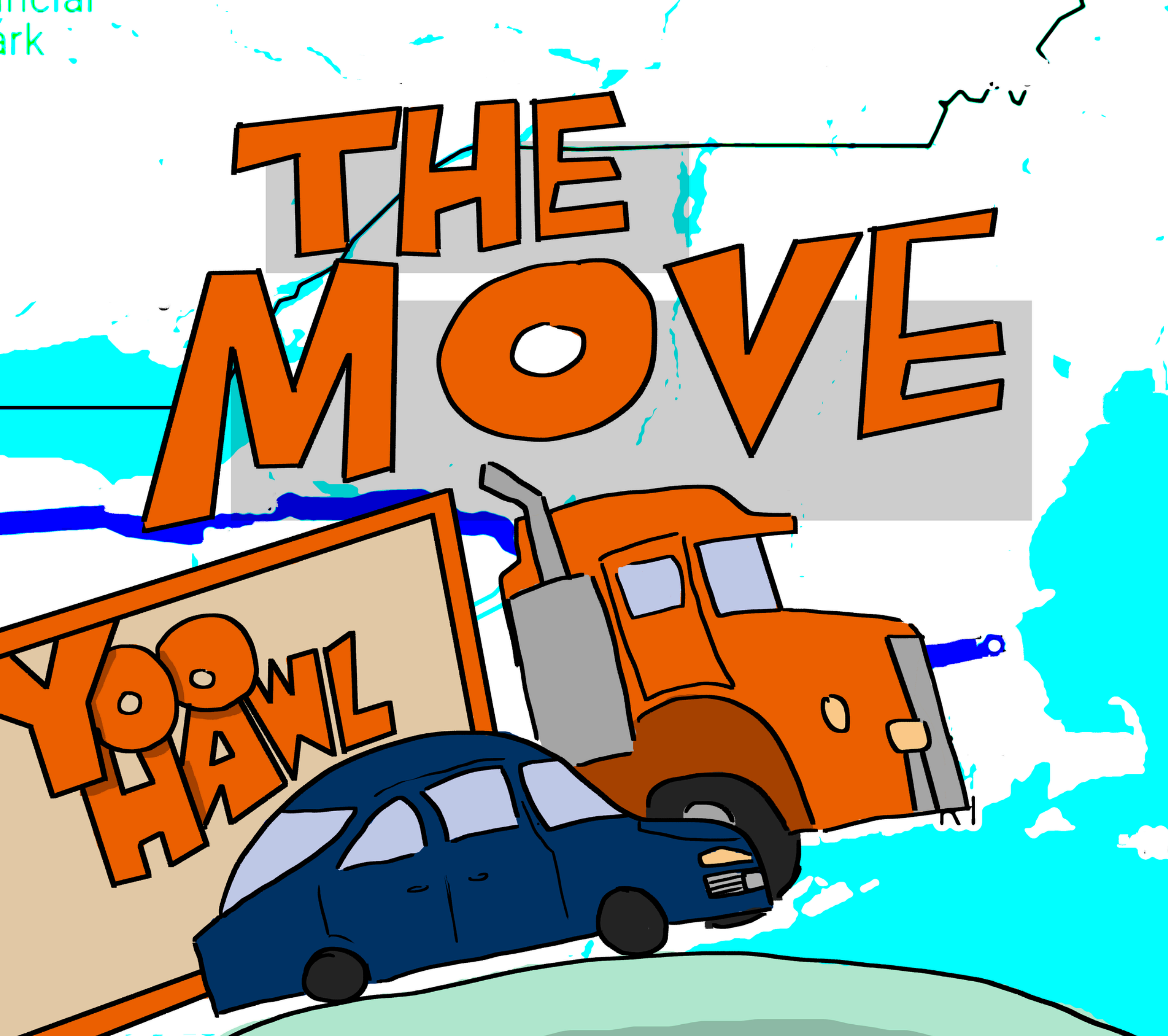
What was important was how We, My family of Me, My Son, Daughter, My Wife, and Me...





This story you are reading right now is about...

THE MOVE



We were moving.
We were leaving our house.

In our house we owned lots of stuff.

Books, toys, stuffed animals, DVDs, couches, sofas, chairs, clothing, beds, food, CDs, a bunny, rugs, dishes, silverware, tables, chairs, shoes, blankets, paintings, pictures and more and more and more and stuff and stuff and stuff stuff stuff. Lots of stuff.

And we were moving. And we had to get rid of a lot of stuff.

zzz

But all that stuff I just listed 22 words ago didn't amount to how big some of other stuff we had was.

We had two cars, a garage, and a house.

We were leaving our house full of stuff. And when you leave a house you own filled with stuff you own you know what you do.

You sell your house and a whole lot of stuff.

Zollow

That's a lot of stuff to sell. Not just a lot of stuff, but a lot of stuff.

zzz

We had to get some help. We hired a real-estate agent to help sell the house. Her name was Rita. She gave us advice. Me and My Wife talked with her about what to do and what not to do when selling a house. The talks went a little like this. Probably..

z z ?

Hello, welcome, I'm so glad you can help us

Hello. Hmm... Big house. Yes. Very big house. Not the best house, lots of stuff I see, well we will have to change few things here.

Canyoo give uz sum advise on how do sell ta hausse.

z z -snrkt-

Don't ever show your face to the buyers. The buyers can say no to a house for the craziest reasons. Why I once had a buyer who said no to a perfectly good house simply because the previous owners were republican. The last thing you want is a buyer offering 3 billion for your house to say no simply cause he thinks you're ugly.

Is there anything about the house you believe should be changed to make it more sellable.

Yes of course there is, there always is, You should repaint everything and vacuum everything. Oh! This is a must do. This kitchen, with its light blue walls, it won't do. You must repaint the entire room yellow

Yellow?

Yes, Yellow.

¡Pi-ss?!

Yellow?

Yes, Yellow.

Yellow??

Really Yellow?

It must be Yellow.

Really. Yellow.

We painted the entire kitchen yellow. A year later the house went back on market. The new owner's painted every room a dark brown and we really didn't need any yellow at all.

We went through a lot of work getting the house in shape. With the repainting, the packing, and the-getting-rid-of-ing.

We had a little help. My wife's brother came over to repaint the bathroom.

Paint is really smelly.

Her brother would paint that bathroom perfectly fine. Like nothing smelled funky at all.

Cough

Cough!

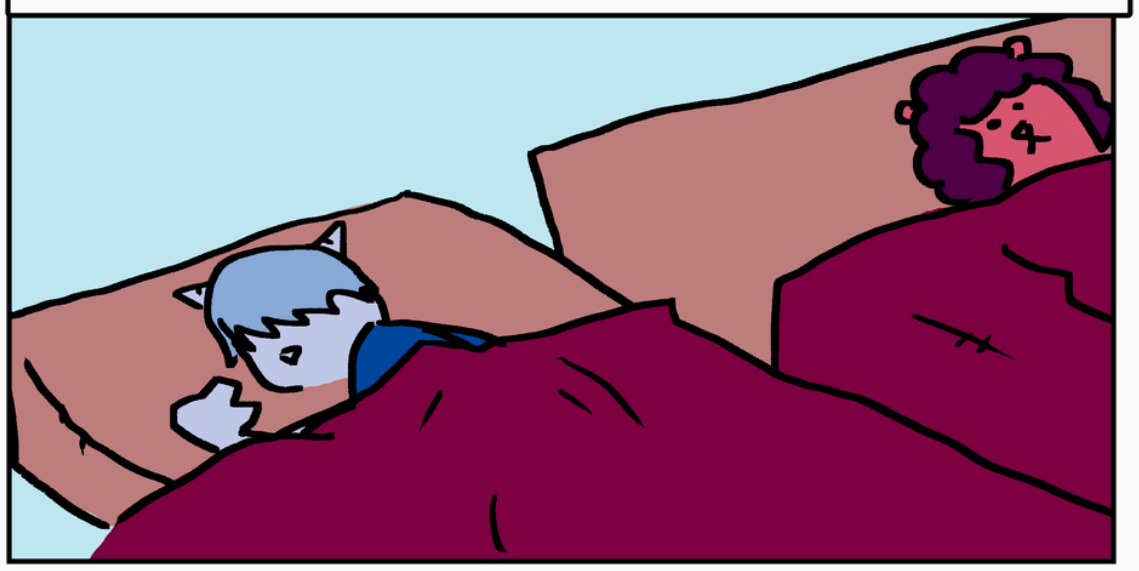
Meanwhile a fly buzzing around the paint dies of suffocation.

He wasn't the only one who helped paint. Our Cleaning Lady helped paint.

Also our friend John helped.

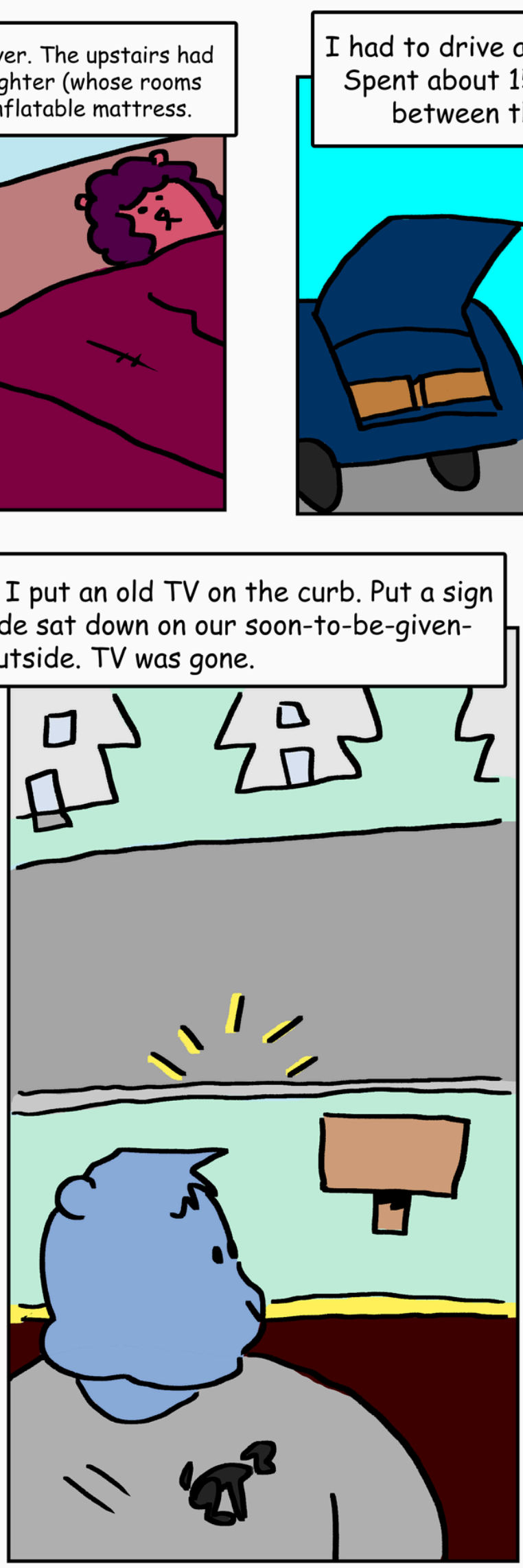
And we hired a painter named Bill to help paint as well.

A majority of the house had some sort of makeover. The upstairs had to be repainted. We commenced my son and daughter (whose rooms were upstairs) had to sleep down stairs on an inflatable mattress.

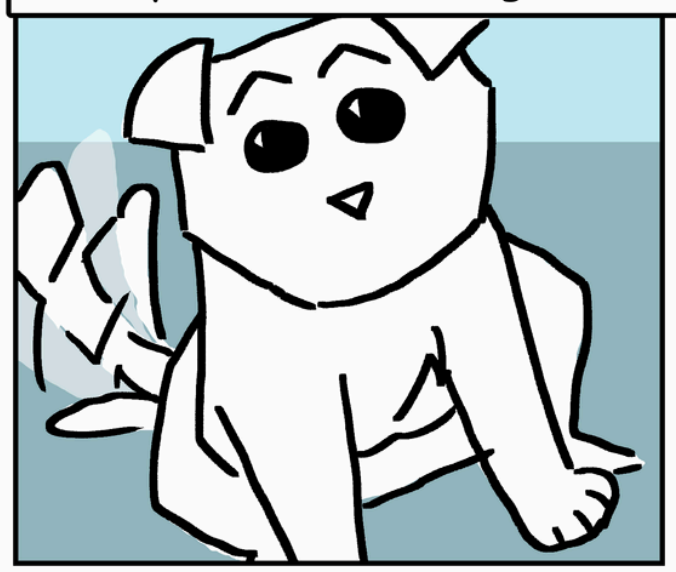


I had to drive a lot of things over to a Donation Store. Spent about 150 miles of gas driving back and forth between the house and that Donation Store.

Not all was given to the Donation Store. I put an old TV on the curb. Put a sign on it that said "Yes it works" went inside sat down on our soon-to-be-given-away-couch. Looked outside. TV was gone.

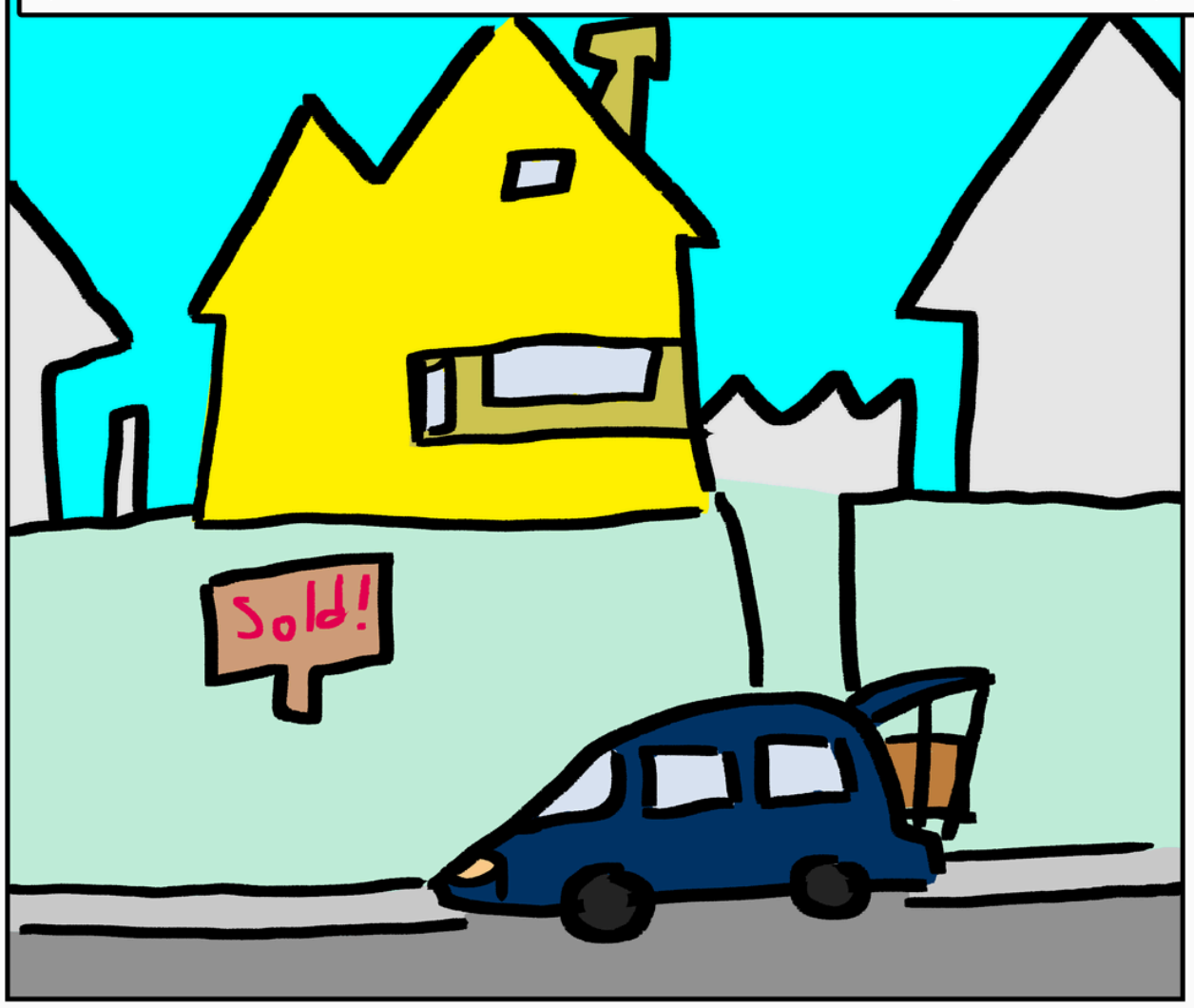


Our Family Dog. My family was moving into an apartment complex. And no pets allowed.We gave our beloved pet to a lady out on a farm.



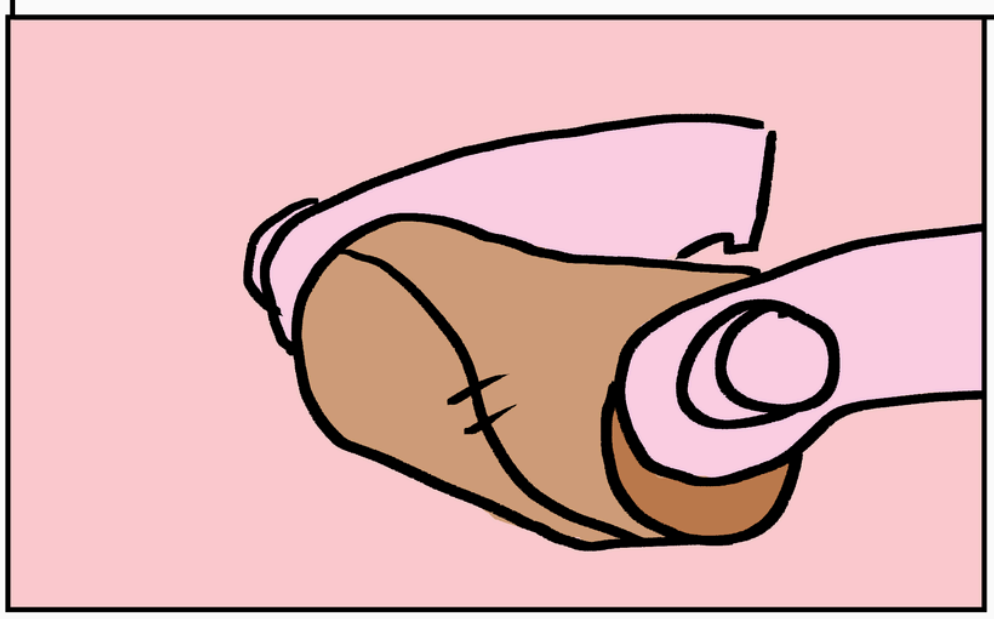
We got her back a year and a half later but she was still hard to not have her for that time..

The house was repainted, the things we needed were packed, and the stuff we didn't need was given away.



We took a long drive to Massachusetts. Two days I believe it took. Maybe three.

First thing we noticed is that there was no toilet paper readily available in the apartment.



We got a handful of groceries.

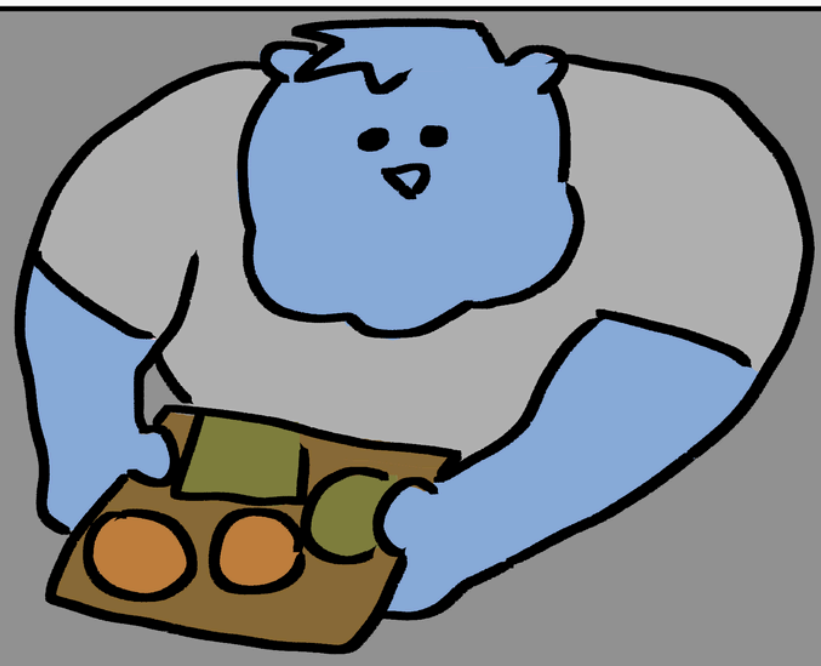
The funny thing is, is even without our stuff. Even without our Books, toys, stuffed animals, DVDs, coaches, sofas, chairs, clothing, beds, food, CDs, rugs, dishes, silverware, tables, chairs, shoes, blankets, paintings, and pictures. Even without that stuff...

We were happy. You don't need stuff to be happy. You just need what you need.

Sure, we got new stuff in Massachusetts. But we didn't need it at all.

And most of our new stuff was given away when we moved to Maryland.

The move was little scary. Not silence of the lambs scary. More like that scary you get when you need a detention slip signed by your parents.



We had no idea what lied ahead. But I'm happy with what happened. No regrets. No regrets at all and a whole lot less stuff.